

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 08843 170809Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 ITC-01
TRSE-00 /035 W
-----125182 181426Z /50
R 170758Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7979

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: EAIR, JA
SUBJECT: CIVAIR: DISCRIMINATION AGAINST US AIR FREIGHT
FORWARDERS

REF: (A) STATE 123494, (B) STATE 110481

1. SUMMARY: EMBASSY BELIEVES IT IS BEST NOT TO BRING
U.S. AIR FREIGHT FORWARDERS COMPLAINT INTO TFC BECAUSE
OF JAPANESE BUREAUCRATIC HACKLES THAT WOULD BE RAISED.
MOFA HAS PROMISED TO RAISE ISSUE DIRECTLY WITH
MOT TO SEEK SOME MUTUALLY AGREEABLE SOLUTION. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBASSY HAS DISCUSSED STATUS OF US AIR FREIGHT
FORWARDERS INFORMALLY WITH MOFA. WE CONCLUDE THAT IT
IS BEST NOT TO BRING U.S. AIR FREIGHT FORWARDERS COMPLAINT
INTO THE TFC AT THIS STAGE. BRINGING CASE TO TFC WOULD
INVOLVE MITI IN THIS PROBLEM. MITI IS A MAJOR RIVAL
OF MOT WHICH HAS SOLE JURISDICTION IN THIS CASE, SO MITI
INTERVENTION WOULD HAVE OPPOSITE EFFECT TO THAT DESIRED.
ALTHOUGH U.S. AIR FREIGHT FORWARDERS IN JAPAN ARE
TREATED DIFFERENTLY (AND MORE RESTRICTIVELY) THAN THEIR
JAPANESE COUNTERPARTS OPERATING IN THE U.S., THEY ARE NOT
"DISCRIMINATED AGAINST" HERE; I.E. JAPANESE AIR FREIGHT
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FORWARDERS/CONSOLIDATORS MUST MEET THE SAME RULES AND
STANDARDS IN ORDER TO OPERATE.

3. MOFA HAS PROMISED TO RAISE THE TWO POINTS OF MAJOR
CONCERN; I.E., TRUCK FLEET OWNERSHIP AND MANDATORY UNIFORM
RATES, WITH THE TRANSPORT MINISTRY (ROAD TRANSPORT BUREAU
AND JCAB) TO SEE IF SOME MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION

MIGHT BE FOUND. WE ARE, HOWEVER, NOT SANGUINE ABOUT THE
EVENTUAL OUTCOME SINCE IT APPEARS QUITE LIKELY THAT THE
RULES IN QUESTION WERE ESTABLISHED TO INSURE A CERTAIN
MINIMUM STANDARD OF SAFETY AND PERFORMANCE BY ALL AIR
FREIGHT FORWARDERS AND THAT THEY ARE APPLIED EQUALLY.

4. WE HAVE DISCUSSED THESE PROBLEMS WITH U.S. AIR FREIGHT
FORWARDERS IN TOKYO, ONE OF WHICH HAS A U.S. CITIZEN IN
CHARGE, TO OBTAIN DETAILS ON THEIR PROBLEMS, BUT IT
WOULD BE HELPFUL IF WASHINGTON AGENCIES COULD ALSO PROVIDE
BACKUP INFORMATION ESPECIALLY ON REMEDIES WHICH WOULD HELP
U.S. FIRMS; E.G., WOULD TWO U.S. FREIGHT FORWARDERS WHO
OPERATE INDEPENDENTLY HERE (EMERY AIR FREIGHT AND AIR-
BORNE) BE WILLING TO OPERATE A JOINT FLEET OF TRUCKS IF
NECESSARY? MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISCRIMINATION, AIR CARGO
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780547/aaaabnzf.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e1dab39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR: DISCRIMINATION AGAINST US AIR FREIGHT FORWARDERS
TAGS: EAIR, JA, US
To: STATE
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